

SOME INITIATIVES AS A RESULT OF THE DIALOG & ENGAGEMENT

- Twenty three 5th graders will participate in an anti violence-program at Annandale Terrace Elementary School this summer. As a result of the Community Dialog/Engagement series, the school, Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, and the Department of Community and Recreation Services (CRS) developed a partnership to provide the summer program. The program began on July 6 and will run through July 22. The program runs from 10: 15 a.m. -1 :30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Transportation is being provided from Fairmont Gardens to the site, and the program is free. Youths registered for the program are in 5th grade and will participate in the "Get Real about Violence Program," which teaches the children the refusal and resiliency skills necessary when confronted with a violent situation. The children will also participate in teamwork and recreational activities.
- Additionally, the school and CRS have partnered to provide the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Summer Lunch program at Fairmont Gardens. The program is being administered by community volunteers recruited by Annandale Terrace Elementary.
- On Monday, July 12th, a meeting is being held at the West Springfield Police Station to discuss possible opportunities for collaboration or assistance providing services and direction for youths in the Annandale area. At the request of West Springfield police commander, Captain Jack Hurlock. representatives from Teen Services, the Skill Source Center, Family Resource Center, Safe & Drug-Free Youth Section (FCPS), Community Services Board, Probation and the Park Authority are, meeting to discuss several possible joint initiatives. Those initiatives include: a teen focus group at Braddock Elementary School; .meetings between Human Service agencies, Teen Services and the Police; a police youth program; .drop-in centers/community response program in Annandale; .police dissemination of teen services information; and an Annandale resource center.
- In addition to the above, the Ravensworth Baptist Church, at the corner of Braddock and Ravensworth Roads, has expressed interest in seeing what it and its members can do to help in this effort. The church will be holding its Fall Ethics Seminar on the subject of "Youth Violence" and has asked for help in soliciting community leaders who would be willing to come and speak to the congregation to help the church focus on what it can do to help.
- Finally, efforts are underway to resurrect two defunct civic associations in the Annandale area -The Ravensworth-Bristow Civic Association and Annandale Terrace Civic Association. These associations will provide points-of-contact to agencies and organizations attempting to determine community needs and attempting to provide assistance in those neighborhoods. The president of the Braddock District Council of Community Associations has been approached about assisting with this effort and has agreed to take this on beginning this fall.